

Message Text

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12

ORIGIN IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-06 NEA-09 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 PA-01 PRS-01

USIA-06 /066 R

DRAFTED BY IO/LABW:RCHEATER

APPROVED BY IO:ROBLAKE

S/IL:DGOOD

NEA:HHSAUNDERS

LABOR:EBPERSONS (INFORM)

----- 079052

R 080052Z FEB 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION GENEVA

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 029338

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: ILO, PFOR, PLO, IS

SUBJECT: ILO ARAB RESOLUTION CALLING FOR EXPULSION

OF ISRAEL FROM ILO

REF: GENEVA 716

1. IN LOOKING FORWARD TO JUNE CONFERENCE, AMBASSADOR SHOULD
INFORM ILO DIRECTOR GENERAL BLANCHARD THAT SHOULD INTERNA-
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IONAL CONFEDERATION OF ARAB TRADE UNIONS, OR ANY OTHER BODY,

INITIATE A MOVE TO EXPEL ISRAEL FROM THE ILO, THERE WILL BE AN INTENSELY ADVERSE REACTION IN THE US ON THE PART OF LABOR, CONGRESS, AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC, LEADING TO PROBABLE DENIAL OF FUNDS AND WITHDRAWAL OF AT LEAST SOME US ELEMENTS FROM THE ILO.

2. BLANCHARD MAY POINT OUT TO YOU THAT IT IS CONSTITUTIONALLY IMPOSSIBLE TO EXPEL AN ILO MEMBER, AND CITE CASE OF SOUTH AFRICA, WHICH IN EARLY 1960S WAS OBJECT OF AN EXPULSION ACTION THAT ACTUALLY RESULTED IN GENERAL CONFERENCE ADOPTION OF A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO PERMIT EXPULSION. MEMBER STATES WERE IN PROCESS OF RATIFYING AMENDMENT WHEN SOUTH AFRICA VOLUNTARILY WITHDREW (L963), AND THE ISSUE DIED WITHOUT THE AMENDMENT'S COMING INTO FORCE. YOU MAY REPLY TO THIS BY STATING THAT AMERICAN OPINION IS UNLIKELY TO FOCUS ON OR BE INFLUENCED BY CONSTITUTIONAL ASPECTS OF THE CASE, BUT IS LIKELY TO RESPOND TO THE VERY FACT THAT ILO PARTICIPANTS ARE ATTEMPTING TO EXPEL ISRAEL, WHETHER EXPULSION IS LEGALLY POSSIBLE OR NOT, AND WHETHER OR NOT

ISRAEL WITHDREW VOLUNTARILY AS A RESULT, AS SOUTH AFRICA DID.

3. WE ARE NOT, HOWEVER, FOR THE MOMENT MOUNTING A CAMPAIGN TO COUNTER THE RUMORED ARAB INITIATIVE, WHICH IN ANY EVENT COULD NOT MATERIALIZE UNTIL APRIL OR MAY. SIMILARLY, WE DO NOT WISH BLANCHARD TO DO SO, AS OVERT ACTION MIGHT INCREASE POSSIBILITIES OF ARABS DECIDING FIRMLY TO MOUNT CAMPAIGN AGAINST ISRAEL. RATHER, WE DO WISH AT THIS TIME TO EXPRESS OUR VIEWS TO BLANCHARD AND TO SEEK VIEWS ON THE REAL SERIOUSNESS OF ARAB INTENTIONS, AND THE LIKELIHOOD THAT THEY MIGHT BE ABLE TO SECURE ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION THAT COULD IN EFFECT EXCLUDE ISRAEL FROM THE ILO.

4. DEPARTMENT PRESUMES THAT DUNNING HAD AUTHORITY TO INFORM MISSION OF THIS MATTER, AND THAT HE WILL NOT BE COMPROMISED BY YOUR DISCUSSIONS WITH THE DIRECTOR GENERAL.

5. DEPARTMENT IS INCLINED TO RATE THIS SITUATION AS
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BEING THE MOST SERIOUS THREAT TO US-ILO RELATIONS SINCE THE LATE WILFRED JENKS APPOINTED THE BYELORUSSIAN, PAVEL ASTAPENKO, AN ASSISTANT DIRECTOR GENERAL AND TRIGGERED THE 1970-1972 CUTOFF OF OUR CONTRIBUTIONS.

6. INFO ADDRESSEES SHOULD REPORT ANY INFORMATION COMING TO THEIR ATTENTION CONCERNING THIS, BUT NOT INITIATE DISCUSSION. KISSINGER

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05 JUL 2006

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To: GENEVA
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